

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship
Sunday, September 13, 2020 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude - *Variations on "St. Denio" (ELW 834 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)*

setting by Christa Rakich

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn - Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

834

We gather in the name of the Father ☩ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us confess our sin.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

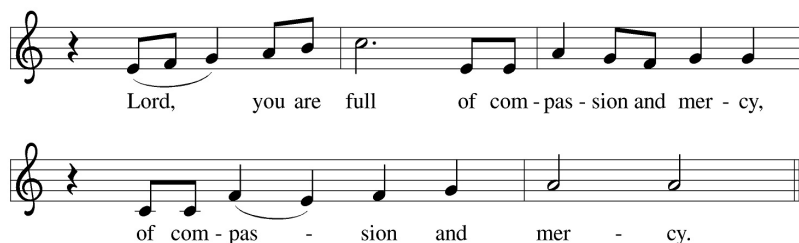
First Reading – Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

Refrain



Refrain

[Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's ¹holy name.

²Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul, and forget not ¹all God's benefits—

³who forgives | all your sins and heals all | your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; Refrain**

⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide | vindication and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your | ways to Moses and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.]

⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love; Refrain**

⁹you will not al- | ways accuse us, nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins, nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth, so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is | from the west, so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion | for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD. **Refrain**

Second Reading - Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³²⁴For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his

fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

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APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit, especially, Audrey, Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, Charlie, JoAnn, Leon, Judy, Janet, Carol, Joyce, Barbara, Ida, Debbie, Larry, Blanche, Leslie, Jim, Bob, Ellie, Kaaren, Leigh, Bob, Sue, Phyllis, Janet, and all those we name now in our hearts or on our lips. Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of powe'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Come to the banquet for all is ready.

LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Communion will be available in the church parking lot Sunday, from 10 to 11 am.

Please do not leave your car. We will come to you and deliver a wafer and wine or grape juice. It will be served to you in a foam bowl. Please take the elements and distribute among those in your vehicle and then dispose of the cups and bowl when you get home.

Prayer after Communion

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us.

Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn - O Christ, Our Hope

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Postlude - *Variations on Puer nobis nascitur*

by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Tessa Merritt Cooney's 1st Birthday! by Claire and Haynes Cooney

Prayer of the Church (Members): Audrey Pearson, Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, Charlie Bock, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Judy Schlegel, Janet Ravert, Carol Sackett, Joyce Veazey, Barbara Anderson, Ida Elliott, Debbie Fullbright, Larry Jenkins, Blanche Bragg, Leslie Johnson, Jim Klausman, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Kaaren Johanson, Leigh Stock, Bob Lewis, Sue Dahl, Phyllis Jenkins, Janet Seiz

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to add, or delete at any time - email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Byron Franzen (brother of David Franzen), Laura and Mike Smith (sister and her husband by Carol Sackett), Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), JoAnn Sackett (daughter-in-law of Carol Sackett), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Cary Grant (friend of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gary Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Brady Laubert (grandson of Pam and Steve Taylor), Staci Dominick (daughter-in-law of Ted and Diana Dominick), Leonard Anderson, (family friend of Ted and Diana Dominick), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of

Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Karen Boone (relative of Robin Winfree), Michelle Meadors, Paul and Lora Kindem and new daughter Sally Jane (by Bill and Barbara Dahl), Tony Blackwell (cousin of Pat Casper), Gad Kainer, Peggy Stevens (by John and Linda Foreman), Nancy Randle (niece of Ann and Larry Grovenstein), Adam Craig (nephew of Pat Casper), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Libby Bukiewicz (mother-in-law of Julia Dahl), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl, Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's)

"Light a Candle" -- Candles are lit for prayer intentions. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. The practice of lighting candles is an important tradition in Christian churches, communities and families. Its origins may be traced back in the Old Testament times where an oil lamp is lighted to "keep a flame burning perpetually" (Exodus 27:19-20), as "perpetual incense before the Lord from generation to generation" (Exodus 30:7-8) and as a "lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting ... set up before the Lord as He has commanded Moses" (Exodus 40:24-25). In today's Christian tradition, this light has a very special place because it symbolizes Christ who said, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light and life" (John 8:12).

The candle screen and votive candles are in the Narthex of the church, along with wood tapers to light them with. You are welcome to come, light a candle, and pray. If you come after hours or when no staff is in the building, please put out the candle before you leave. Staff will check during the daytimes when they are there to make sure all are put out.

Pour a cup of tea or coffee and join the Pastor and Vicar for Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11. We are looking forward to seeing you, chatting, and catching up. Here is the info:

Topic: **Coffee Hour with the Pastor and Vicar**

Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRIgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09>

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753

Password: 292680

Scott Anderson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Bible Study on Thursday mornings.

Topic: **Bible Study - Acts** – You may download the lessons ahead of time by going to the home page of our website (stpaulsdurham.org)

Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGfHUT09>

Meeting ID: 946 532 621

Password: 402561

St. Paul's Preschool & PMO: It's that time of year to re-link your VIC Card. Please consider linking your VIC Card to the preschool so that we may receive a percentage of your sales from Harris Teeter. Our numbers **3049** and can be linked at any Harris Teeter or online. Friends and family may link too to support the preschool!

St. Paul's Readers – Everyone is welcome to join the Zoom discussion of *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens, on Thursday, Sept 17 at 3:00 pm. There will also be a discussion of which books to read for next year. Please send suggestions for 2021 books to Barb Shade, bjshade11@gmail.com, ahead of time. The book for October is *Liturgy of the Ordinary*, by Tish Harrison

Topic: St. Paul's Readers

Time: Sep 17, 2020 03:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84609915719?pwd=aVFLUExtSmpRWks2SWxiTFhTbyt1QT09>

Meeting ID: 846 0991 5719

Passcode: 610080

Devotions – Vicar Judy Goans is now editing the Monday-Friday daily devotions. You can sign up to write devotions by visiting: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily> . Email your devotions to Vicar Judy (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org) at least two days before your devotion date.

Want to assist with the worship recording? You can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-assisting> to be assisting minister for the recording on Wednesday afternoons. For more information, you are welcome to contact Pastor Scott or Vicar Judy.

The City and County of Durham need your help. The September 30th deadline to complete the 2020 Census is fast approaching. COVID-19 has presented numerous challenges for all of us and has especially affected outreach to Durham residents about the Census. As a consequence, Durham is behind. That means we risk losing millions of federal dollars that we need to support so many vital programs and services right here in Durham such as school lunches, Head Start, Medicaid, highways, medical centers, Pell grants, food stamps, and much more. You can complete the form online at my2020census.gov or by dialing 1-844-330-2020. The census is safe, secure and confidential and only takes 10 minutes to complete. Everyone counts!

St. Paul's has a new Facebook group to allow us to communicate with each other as you feel inspired. Vicar Judy will be posting a question for discussion each week. However, please feel free to post on other topics as well. If you think this might be interesting or helpful, please join the group. The name of the group is St. Paul's ELCA - Durham, NC, and the link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2364775460484568>. Right now, this group is open, so anyone can read messages on the group page. If we get "trolled" we may need to make the group private.

Introducing the Prison Justice Task Group

Hosted by [The Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran](#)

This is a group that I have become a member of since the pandemic began. It is a group I was introduced to by Ali and Isak Tranvik. I attended one of their earlier orientations. I am currently a pen pal with two men who are incarcerated in North Carolina prisons. It has been a truly eye opening experience into our prison system. Please read about the upcoming orientations and if you are at all interested consider attending one of the sessions.

-Ellen Lavery-

The Prison Justice Task Group is a ministry of The Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran and it's partners throughout the North Carolina Synod of the ELCA and beyond. We connect people in prison with pen pals on the outside and, together, as a community of prisoners and "free world allies," we seek to amplify the voices of those inside and to advocate for prisoners' civil and human rights and for the transformation of the prison industrial complex.

Because we operate entirely online and through the mail, anyone, anywhere can participate in our work. We want to invite YOU to discern if you are called to this work!

Join us for one of two orientation events. The sessions are Saturday September 12th at 10:30am – 12:00 OR Sunday September 20th at 1:00pm- 2:30 pm to learn more about our group and how we operate.

Zoom Link for both sessions:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3070659519?pwd=UGpYcklNdVpONmtTNEl0ZTVzSDhhZz09>

Make sure you are registered to vote! New voter? Moved? Removed from Voter Roll? visit youcanvote.org/register to confirm, update or register.

3 ways to vote:

1. Early Voting: vote at any early voting site in your county
2. Election Day: You must vote at your assigned polling place
3. By Mail: Request an absentee ballot – go to youcanvote.org/voter-guide

Early Voting: October 15-31 - Find an early voting site: youcanvote.org/voting

Election Day: November 3 - vote at your assigned polling place from 6:30 am-7:30 pm. Find your assigned polling place at youcanvote.org/lookup

VOTER EDUCATION PROGRAM: GENERAL ELECTION, 2020

Thursday, Sep. 17, 1:00 p.m.

Virtual program

Join representatives from the League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham, and Chatham Counties to answer your questions about voting. The League of Women Voters is a 100-year-old nonpartisan political organization that encourages people to become informed and actively participate in government. Presentation will include questions about who can vote, challenges to voting due to COVID, and more.

Register here: <https://events.durhamcountylibrary.org/event/4555948>

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
 Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561